



# THE GRAND STAND

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GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE  
FOR THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

JUNE 1975

## GOVERNOR SHAPP ENCOURAGES COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION OF ALL THOSE WORKING FOR THE HANDICAPPED

The Honorable Milton J. Shapp, Governor of the Commonwealth, made the following statement concerning this first publication:

"Over a year ago, I asked for the formation of a Committee for Services to the Physically Handicapped to be formed under the leadership of Francis X. Coyle. I am proud to say that this committee has been formed and has been effectively operating for just over one year. The Administration believes that the effective provision of coordinated state services is crucial in the fulfillment of the needs of the physically handicapped person, and their families.

Not only have members of the Departments of Health, Education, Public Welfare, Labor and Industry been part of this committee, but also representatives from consumer organizations. Six months ago I was proud to announce the appointment of John H. Snyder as my Advocate for the Physically Handicapped to work closely with this committee as its Executive Secretary. It is the purpose of this committee to provide to the individual and his family a full spectrum of measures designed to prevent physically handicapping conditions, and to enable physically handicapped persons to reach their maximum level of physical and social well-being, in essence, being able to make that GRAND STAND!

The Grand Stand is a life's dream of every handicapped person, and so it is my



*Governor Shapp presents the Handicapped Employee of the year award to Mr. William T. Powell while Mrs. Powell looks on.*

dream, my hope, my prayer, that every physically disabled person will be able to work and live at the maximum level of their physical and social well-being. The first of the Committee's objectives is to work and communicate with private agencies serving the physically handicapped for the purpose of identifying, pressing but unfulfilled needs. Another objective is to encourage cooperative planning between governmental and nongovernmental agencies to produce maximum sensitivity and response to the problems of the physically handicapped and their families. Through this medium of communication it is our hope to not only better the

communication, but enhance it to provide better services for all. I therefore encourage all those who have the privilege of reading this newsletter regularly to cooperate with the committee for services to the physically handicapped and the editors of this communication medium, that we might better fulfill the needs of the physically handicapped person and their families.

I congratulate my Committee for the Service to the Physically Handicapped for this positive step forward in the field of communication. Not only to those who are working with and for the physically handicapped, but the handicapped themselves and their families."



## MR. FRANCIS X. COYLE REFLECTS ON HIS CURRENT CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE FOR SERVICES TO THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

It gives me great pleasure to witness the publication of the first issue of the Grand Stand and to make a small contribution to it. The Governor's Office for Human Resources has been greatly concerned about the needs of the physically handicapped for some time. The concern of the Office and my own personal sensitivity to the problems of the handicapped are a result of the tireless efforts of a very dear friend, Gweneth Zarfoss, who last year retired from State service.

Mrs. Zarfoss had been involved for over ten years in various committees and study groups which examined the situation of the handicapped. To her credit, she was never satisfied that enough had been done in concrete programmatic terms and, in a very real sense, her vision of what can and should be done has not yet been realized. First she educated me and then she prodded me. The fruits of her efforts resulted in the establishment of the Governor's Committee. I know that the handicapped community recognized and appreciated her work on their behalf. I, too, owe her a personal debt of gratitude.

As Chairman of the Governor's Committee on the Physically Handicapped, I have been pleased with the attitude and responsiveness of State agencies. While much more needs to be done, the Committee has been able to develop proposed standards for sheltered workshops, to formulate a research program to more adequately assess both needs and the utilization of existing services, to advocate and comment upon legislation of benefit to the handicapped and to increase the awareness of State departments so that the handicapped will be considered in comprehensive planning for service delivery.

This Office and the Committee have been greatly assisted in this undertaking by Mr. John H. Snyder, the Governor's Advocate for the Physically Handicapped. Most of the readers of this publication knew Jack Snyder long before I did. He has had a distinguished career and has established a solid professional reputation through his many years of work with the



*Mr. John H. Snyder and Senator Hugh Scott discuss the needs of Pennsylvania physically handicapped with Miss Wheelchair Pennsylvania of 1974, Judy Mangus.*

physically and mentally handicapped. Jack is combining this experience with his initiative and imagination in a very dynamic way. The handicapped are indeed fortunate to have him as their advocate in State government.

All is not rosey. Much needs to be done. We are relying as much upon the advice of handicapped persons themselves and those organizations which represent their interests as we are on State agencies to assist in improving services. Through our mutual efforts, I hope that some day we can all say that every handicapped person has the opportunity to achieve his full potential in all fields without reservation or ridicule.

## THE EIGHTH ANNUAL PENNSYLVANIA WHEELCHAIR GAMES

The Eighth Annual Pennsylvania Wheelchair Games were held at Penn State University on May 16, 17, and 18, 1975. Chairman of this year's games was Dr. John Doolittle of Penn State University; co-chairman was Charles Ryder, of Harrisburg.

The Pennsylvania games were first held in May of 1968. Seventy-five athletes met at Trinity High School. Each year the games have grown in size and interest. In 1972-73 and '74, the games were held at the Harrisburg Area Community College.

Cedar Cliff and Mechanicsburg High School hosted the games in previous years.

This year was the first time in their history that the games left the Harrisburg area. In 1976 we will see their return to the West Shore School District for the Bi-Centennial Celebration.

In 1969, a group of fifty wheelchair athletes expressed an interest in forming a regional wheelchair sports organization from which the Pennsylvania Wheelchair Athletic Association was born and chartered in Pennsylvania as a non-profit organization, dedicated to the promotion and support of handicapped sports.

The P.W.A.A. hosted the Pennsylvania games each year. The Pennsylvania Wheelchair Sports Hall of Fame was created in 1970, to honor athletes and organizers in the wheelchair sports movement in Pennsylvania. Elected to date as athletes in the Hall of Fame are Rosalie Hixson; Lou Rossini; Tony Levis and John Martin. Organizers elected to the Hall of Fame to date are: H. Charles Ryder; Lou Neishloss; John Noisette; and Jack Dello Iacono.

Those athletes who scored in the first three places in table tennis or slalom, or met certain minimum standards in swimming, field events, archery, track, weight lifting, will qualify for the National Wheelchair Games in June at the University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois.

Pennsylvania is very proud of our weight lifters who hold five of the six National Records in that Event.

Two Pennsylvania Athletes are in the National Wheelchair Sports Hall of Fame. They are Rosalie Hixson and Lou Rossini.

There were twenty-five teams from across eastern United States who participated at Penn State, six of these teams were from Pennsylvania. In addition there were many independent individuals participating in the events. The Pennsylvania teams were Central Pennsylvania Wheelers, from Norristown, Pennsylvania; Clearfield Wheelchair's A.A.S., from Clearfield, Pennsylvania; Delaware Valley Spokesman, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; The Pennsylvania Chariot Racers, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; the University of Pittsburgh Rehab. Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; The Quad Squad from Norristown, Pennsylvania. Others were from New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Ohio, Massachusetts, Illinois, Virginia and Michigan.



## WHAT IS THE COMMITTEE FOR SERVICES TO THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED?

The present state level administration believes that the effective provision of coordinated State services is crucial in fulfillment of the needs of physically handicapped persons and their families.

To implement this, a Committee on Services to the Physically Handicapped was appointed by the Governor, to be comprised of departmental representatives from the Department of Health, Education, Public Welfare and Labor and Industry. The responsibility of chairing the Committee was assigned to the Governor's Office for Human Resources, and the first official meeting was conducted on January 17, 1974. During the first year of function, representatives of consumer organizations were invited to participate.

The purpose of this Committee is to provide coordination of all State services to ensure availability and accessibility to the individual and his family of a full spectrum of measures designed to prevent physically handicapping conditions and to enable persons who are handicapped by a physical or multiple disability to reach their maximum level of physical and social well-being. These measures comprise life span services to include support for the family as the first and foremost influence on the individual, assurance that appropriate diagnostic, treatment, rehabilitation and educational services are provided, that timely evaluation and training for job placement is offered and that individually suited residential settings are available if needed. Likewise, it is the responsibility of the Committee to submit to the Governor recommendations and suggestions for needed legislation and/or policy upgrading that will assist in meeting the life span services of the physically handicapped.

Life-span services encompass the broad range of programs, including such features as prevention, diagnostic, therapeutic, recreation, education vocational rehabilitation services, assistance with residential problems, etc.

Some of the Committee's objectives include:

1. To communicate and work with private agencies serving the physically handicapped for the purpose of identifying pressing but unfulfilled needs.

2. To study problem areas and develop and recommend action for provision of more effective State services to the physically handicapped and the extension of the same kinds of services and programs presently available through State government resources for other categories of disabling conditions, such as programs for the blind and the retarded.
3. To monitor on a continuing basis program operations of all departments concerned to promote consistent delivery of services and elimination of unproductive duplication or overlap in programming.
4. To support the regular compilation of scientific and other data and its application to assist in solving life-span problems of the physically handicapped.
5. To provide, through the Office of the Governor's Advocate for the Physically Handicapped, a clearinghouse for information and resource availability within the State for handicapped individuals and their families.
6. To encourage cooperative planning between governmental and non-governmental agencies to provide maximum sensitivity and response to the problems of the physically handicapped and their families.
7. To promote the full use of Federal funds, wherever applicable, to carry out meaningful programs for the physically handicapped.
8. To prepare and submit recommendations to the Governor for improvement in State programs and services to the physically handicapped.
9. To study and recommend action concerning such other problems or needs of the physically handicapped as may become apparent from time to time.

Working as a member of the Committee is the Governor's Advocate for the Physically Handicapped, who serves as the staff resource to the Committee in implementing its purpose and objectives, as follows:

1. Coordinate the needs of physically handicapped individuals with available service through:
  - a. the development of a comprehensive directory of

existing services;

- b. development of a resource center to disseminate information to individuals, agencies and the community at large; and
- c. coordination of services between State, private and voluntary resources to assure that all needs are met.

2. Promulgate needful legislation by bringing unmet problems of the physically handicapped to the attention of the voluntary and public sectors, and coordinating their planning and efforts to develop solutions.

3. Identify or provide consultative services to agencies or groups serving the handicapped in such areas as:

- Education
- Research
- Funding
- Rehabilitation, Training and Job Placement
- Leisure time activities and Recreation
- Housing
- Transportation
- Program evaluation

## PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT ON EDUCATION CURRICULUM CONFERENCE

The 12th Annual P.D.E. Curriculum Conference will be held at Shippensburg State College on June 17 through 20, 1975 according to Donald M. Carroll Jr., Commissioner for Basic Education in the Department of Public Instruction. One of the Courses offered by George W. Severns Jr., Bureau of Special Education is "Programming for the Physically Handicapped". This workshop will be a follow-up to a series of in-service sessions for teachers and supervisors of physically handicapped programs conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Education during November of 1974. Participants will develop curriculum Guidelines for the physically Handicapped and will learn specific methods for instructing these students. A list of recommendations will be established for institutions training teachers of the physically handicapped.

## WHO IS THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED?

Hon. Leonard Bachman, M.D.  
Secretary of Health

Hon. Frank S. Beal  
Secretary of Public Welfare

Mr. Ralph E. Beistline  
Director, Bureau for the  
Visually Handicapped

Mr. Robert H. Boyer  
Commissioner  
Office of Adult Programs

Mr. Francis X. Coyle, Chairperson  
Director, Office of Human  
Resources, Governors Office

John A. Dattoli, M.D.  
Department of Health

Hon. Terry Dellmuth  
Governors Special Assistant for  
Human Services

Ms. Dorothy Fulton  
Office of Mental Retardation

Mr. John Gamaldi  
Department of Health

Robert D. Gens, M.D.  
Department of Health

Mr. Joe Goldbach  
Office of Mental Health

Mr. John Gordon  
P.A.R.F.

Mr. William E. Graffius  
Pa. Easter Seal Society

Mr. Wayne L. Grubb  
Department of Education  
Vocational Education

Mr. John A. Hagan  
Director, Bureau of Vocational  
Rehabilitation  
Department of Labor & Industry

Mr. Robert P. Haigh  
Acting Deputy Secretary  
Mental Health

Mr. Clark D. Kennedy  
Assistant Director  
Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation

Mr. John Lapidakis  
Developmental Disabilities Council

Mr. Dick Lee  
Office of the Budget

Mr. Leonard LeMelle  
Department of Public Welfare

Mr. John McGrath  
Director, Applicant Services  
Bureau of Employment Security

Hon. Stanley Meyers  
Deputy Secretary of Public Welfare  
Office of Mental Retardation

Dr. William F. Ohrtman  
Department of Education  
Division of Special Education

Dr. Robert W. Saunderson, Jr.  
Medical Director  
Elizabethtown Hospital for  
Children & Youth

Mr. William Schaffstall  
Executive Assistant  
Department of Labor & Industry

Mr. George W. Severns, Jr.  
Department of Education  
Division of Special Education  
Chairman of the Publications  
Committee

Mr. Archibald Simons, Sr.  
Department of Health

Ms. Phyllis Skok  
Office of the Budget

Mr. John H. Snyder, Advocate  
Governors Office

Mr. John Walter  
Special Assistant for Manpower

Mr. Alexander Waugh  
Developmental Disabilities Council

Mr. David Williams  
Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Department of Labor & Industry

## SPREAD THE WORD

This newsletter is offered as another means of communicating with all agencies concerned with the physically handicapped. It can be your means of sharing ideas and innovations with others who are attempting to assist the physically handicapped make that GRAND STAND. If you are involved in or aware of any activity or information, or feel strongly about any issue concerning the physically handicapped, you are invited to submit an article of any length for publishing in the newsletter. The best innovation or idea means little or nothing unless you tell someone about it.

Send any articles you wish published to:

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